Procurement of laproscopes by HLL

3961. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Latex Ltd. (HLL) is responsible for manufacture and marketing of condoms only;

(b) whether HLL has been asked to procure Laproscopes for various States amounting to crores of rupees;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether HLL have the experience and expertise in the purchase of sophisticated Laproscopes; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the entrusting the job of procurement of Laproscopes to HLL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) M/s Hindustan Latex Limited (HLL), a Public Sector Undertaking under Department of Family Welfare is manufacturing and marketing Condoms, since 1967. They are also manufacturing and marketing other contraceptives viz. Oral Contraceptive Pills and Copper-T for the National Family Welfare Programme. Besides, they are manufacturing blood bags and sutures.

(b) to (d) It has been the policy and practice in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to assign procurement of medical supplies and equipment to organizations who have been found to have appropriate capacity and systems in positon. Public Sector Undertakings like M/s RITES, M/s MECON and M/s NTPC have been doing procurement under different programmes of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. Therefore, during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, M/s HSCC was assigned the procurement of RCH kits. Similarly, during 1998-99, M/s HILL were given the job of procurement of RCH kits and during

2000-2001, HLL, were assigned the task of procurement of Laproscopes at a cost not exceeding Rs. 8 crores.

(e) Does not arise.

Mixing of spurious substance with tea in A.P.

3962. DR. A.K. PATEL:
DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 50,000 Kg. of mixing material for making spurious tea has been seized in Andhra Pradesh, recently;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a toxic tea like substance that causes health hazards is being mixed with tea throughout the country; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to curb this danagerous activity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Information has been received about seizure of 54,000 Kgs. of spurious tea packed in 770 Gunny bags from 4 Rice Mills in West Godavari Distt. Andhra Pradesh. The samples of the seized stocks were found to contain cashew husk and foreign matter.

(b) No such report has been received from other State Governments.

(c) All the State/UT Governments have been advised to keep a strict vigil on the quality of tea being sold in the country and to take action as per the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.